

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on November 4, 2004, the following members were present:

Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner via telephone
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner via telephone

Bob Rowe, Chairman, was absent but left his written votes with the Commission secretary.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(220) In the matter of TN2239 – Greyhound Lines, Inc., Dallas, Texas requests permission to continue to self-insure for liability purposes for the period October 1, 2003 to October 1, 2004. Financial documents support their request;

Commissioner Jergeson moved to continue to allow Greyhound Lines, Inc. to continue to self-insure for liability purposes for the period October 1, 2003 to October 1, 2004. Commissioner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(221) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes:

Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the Commission minutes for the week of October 25, 2004. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

APPEARANCE

Kim Moran
Utility Division

(222) In the matter of Qwest Services Corporation – N2004.10.165 – On October 14, 2004 Qwest filed for Commission approval a Master Service Agreement (MSA) between Qwest and Edward D. Jones & Co. L.P. and Associates. This filing was submitted pursuant to Section 1.18 – Volume and Term Discounts to Large Business Customers with a Multi-State Presence of Qwest's Exchange and Network Services;

Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the MSA between Qwest and Edward D. Jones & Co. L.P. and Associates. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Phil Cook

(223) In the matter of Winter Termination Policy – The PSC’s winter termination rules require regulated utilities to obtain PSC approval before shutting off electric or natural gas service to a nonpaying residential customer from November 1 to April 1. Commission policy has been to delegate authority on an annual basis to the PSC compliance staff to approve or disapprove utility requests for winter shutoffs. Staff seeks PSC action on delegation of authority for this winter’s shutoff request;

Commissioner Jergeson moved to have winter shut offs delegated to the authority of PSC compliance staff. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Al Brogan

(224) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Wilder Resorts, Inc. dba Fairmont Hot Springs Resort – stipulated agreement on sewer;

Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the draft as a final order on the stipulated Fairmont Hot Springs sewer agreement. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4 - 0. Commissioner Rowe did not leave a vote on this issue.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(225) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of annual pipeline safety rules update;

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve pipeline safety amendment and update PSC safety rules. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(226) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of annual Btu-monitoring contract renewal;

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the contract with KemData. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney
Utility Division

(227) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of PSC legislation – possible bill to increase pipeline safety maximum fines and other legislative matters that may arise;

Commissioner Jergeson moved to secure a legislator to get a bill draft and sponsor for the statutory change on fines to bring PSC in compliance with federal guidelines. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Monica Tranel, Gary Duncan

(228) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Ronan Telephone Company and Hot Springs Telephone Company – Local Number Portability;

Commissioner Brainard moved to recommend staff to come back with a revised draft for action to be acted upon next week along the lines that have been discussed this morning. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 0. Commissioner Rowe abstained from voting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Judy Scheier
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)